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URBAN DISTRICT OF LYMM



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1969

ACKD. BY

Including the Report of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

R

'Mountlands'
12 The Mount,
Church Street,
ALTRINCHAM.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report on the district for the year 1969.

Reference to the Health Statistics in the Report will show that there was no unusual outbreak of illness and that the death rate and birth rate follow very closely to the pattern for the rest of the country.

The population is steadily increasing by reason of development in the area, predominantly of private dwelling houses and Lymm is quickly developing into a dormitory town for people working in Warrington, Altrincham and Manchester.

The section of the Report relative to the everyday running of the department on the environmental rather than medical side has been completed by the Public Health Inspector. He and his staff I thank for their help and willing co-operation during the year.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the elected representatives for the interest and stimulation they give to encourage a high health standard.

I am,
Your obedient servant,

W. DAVIDSON-LAMB,

Medical Officer of Health.

1969

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Chairman : Mr. J.E. Marsh, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : Mr. O. Davies.

Mr. G.W.L. Baker,

Mr. W.L. Boon

Mr. V. Dawson-Kent (Chairman of the Health &
Slum Clearance Committee)

Mr. R.E. Gregory

Mr. W.R. Jones

Mr. W.B. Keates

Mr. J.C. Ritchie

Dr. H. Sissons (Vice-Chairman of the Health &
Slum Clearance Committee)

Mr. J. Thomason, C.C. J.P.

Mr. B.J. Thornton

Staff of the Public Health Department

Dr. W. Davidson-Lamb, M.B., Ch.B., D.Ph.,
Medical Officer of Health

Mr. R.T. Sucksmith, M.P.H.I.A., Cert. Inspector
of Meat and Other Foods,
Public Health Inspector

Mrs. I. Sidley, Clerk/Typist

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	... ... ...	... ... ...	... ...	4,242 acres
Height above sea level -	40 ft.	(Statham)		
	195 ft.	(Jolly Thresher, Higher Lane)		
	80 ft.	(Lynn Village)		
Population (Registrar General estimate Mid. 1969				9,900
Number of inhabited dwellings	... ...	... ...		3,401
Average number of persons per dwelling	... ...	... ...		2.91
Rateable Value of the District	... ...	... ...		£319,009
Product of the penny rate	... ...	... ...		£1,272
General Rate	... ...	... ...	13/9d in the £	

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Births</u>			<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	-	Legitimate	82	96	178
	-	Illegitimate	4	3	7
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	-		86	99	185
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (crude)					19.7
					(corrected) 18.9

BIRTH RATE FOR ENGLAND AND WALES 16.3

<u>Birth Rates</u>	1914	1926	1936	1946	1956	1966	1968	1969
LYMM	21.4	13.2	13.7	17.6	17.4	19.4	21.79	18.9
ENGLAND & WALES	24.5	23.1	16.3	19.4	16.0	17.7	16.9	16.3

At the beginning of the century Lynn had a high birth rate which dropped to quite a low level in the twenties and thirties and then rose steadily. The rise and fall of the birth rate shows a similar trend to the rates for England and Wales, but with the influx of younger couples to the area in the last few years, the birth rate has been slightly above the national rate.

Stillbirths

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	1	-	1

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) 11

Stillbirth rate for ENGLAND AND WALES 13

Deaths of Infants

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rate for ENGLAND AND WALES 18

Infant Mortality

<u>Rates</u>	1914	1926	1936	1946	1956	1966	1968	1969
LYMM	46	82	36	44.4	8.5	19.9	16.64	-
ENGLAND & WALES	100	70	59	43	26.9	19.0	18	18

Deaths

All causes	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	56	43	99

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population (crude) 10.6
(corrected) 12.4

Death Rate for ENGLAND AND WALES 11.9

Death Rates

	1914	1926	1936	1946	1956	1966	1968	1969
LYMM	12.0	10.5	10.7	11.7	11.7	11.93	13.22	12.4
ENGLAND & WALES	21.8	11.6	12.1	11.5	11.7	11.7	11.9	11.9

Cause	Sex	DEATHS	BY-AGE	CAUSES OF DEATHS							
				Under 4-wks	Total 4 wks to 1 +	5 +	15 +	25 +	35 +	45 +	55 +
Malignant Neoplasm - Buccal Cavity	F	1									
- Oesophagus	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
- Stomach	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
- Intestine	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
- Larynx & Bronchus	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
- Breast Neoplasms	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other Endocrine Diseases	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other diseases of Nervous System	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Hyperensive Disease	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other Heart Disease	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cerebrovascular Disease	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Influenza	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Bronchitis & Emphysema	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nephritis & Nephrosis	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Genito-Urinary System	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Totals carried forward	F	38	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	11	13	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	18

continuation :-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year:-

Measles	14
Hepatitis	8
Gastro Enteritis	4
Food Poisoning	8
Tuberculosis	1

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

General Hospital accommodation is provided in Altrincham and Warrington General Hospitals while a few cases of a special nature are admitted to hospitals in Manchester.

Infectious Diseases are usually accommodated in the Warrington Infectious Diseases Hospital.

LABORATORY SERVICES

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Withington Hospital, Manchester, and specimens are collected daily from Altrincham or sent by post in suitable containers.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
LYMM,
Cheshire.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report including all statistics from the 1st January, 1969 to 31st December, 1969.

Housing has once more played a very important part in the work of the Department, with particular reference to improvement by means of Standard and Discretionary Grants.

One problem giving increasing concern is that of allgae growth in the upper and lower dams, with the resultant smell particularly in the Village area. The public are slowly accepting the fact that this is a natural phenomenon and one which has to be accepted when the weather conditions are right for the growth of the allgae.

Another problem of interest was a plague of caterpillars which was finally overcome by daily spraying over a period of a week or so.

There were no other interesting occurrences basically the duties of the department were those which normally are to be expected in a Local Authority Health Department.

May I thank the Committee and the Chairman in particular for the assistance that they have given me during the year. Mrs. Sidley my Clerk/Typist for the continued loyal service that she gives so efficiently, and Mr. J. Goulden the Rodent Operative for the conscientious and skillful manner in which he carries out his duties.

I am,
Yours obedient servant,

R. T. SUCKSMITH,

Public Health Inspector.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply for the area is under the control of the Warrington, Runcorn and District Water Board.

An ample water supply is maintained which is frequently sampled, details of which are appended below.

The water is subjected to a softening process and I also append details of a chemical analysis of the water as provided by the Warrington, Runcorn and District Water Board.

The results of samples taken were:-

Total number of bacteriological samples	...	...	38
Samples free from Coliform bacteria	...	...	37
Samples free from faecal coli	...	...	37

The following is the latest chemical analysis of the water:-

Appearance	...	...	...	...	...	clear
Odour	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Reaction, pH	...	...	...	...	...	7.5
Colour (hazen units)	...	...	...	...	...	less than 5 parts per million
Total solids	...	...	...	...	...	408
Nitrogen as free & saline ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Nitrogen as nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	2.0
Chlorides, as Cl	...	...	...	...	...	77
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C	...	...	...	...	...	0.2
Total hardness	...	...	...	...	...	219
Temporary hardness	...	...	...	...	...	176
Permanent hardness	...	...	...	...	...	43
Alkalinity	...	...	...	...	...	176
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	nil (total residual)
Potassium, as K	...	...	...	...	...	3.2
Anionic synthetic detergents	...	...	...	...	...	-
Manganese, as Mn	...	...	...	...	...	less than 0.025
Poisonous metals	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Free carbon dioxide	...	...	...	...	...	12

Calcium, as Ca ...	...	...	...	...	46
Magnesium, as Mg	...	...	...	...	25
Chloride, as Cl	...	...	...	...	77
Sulphate, as SO_4^2-	...	...	...	...	55.2
Nitrate, as NO_3^-	...	...	...	...	8.8
Carbonate, as CO_3^{2-}	...	...	...	...	105.6
Sodium, as Na	...	...	...	...	75
Silica	...	...	...	...	1.0
Iron, as Fe	...	...	...	...	0.01

The following probable mode of combination is based upon the analysis:-

- parts per million -

Calcium carbonate	...	...	...	...	115.0
Magnesium carbonate	...	...	...	...	51.2
Magnesium sulphate	...	...	...	...	52.0
Sodium sulphate	...	...	...	...	5.6
Sodium chloride	...	...	...	...	127.0
Sodium nitrate	...	...	...	...	12.0
Silica	...	...	...	...	1.0
Mineral solids (calculated)	...	...	...	...	363.8

FOOD INSPECTIONS

Upon examination the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered by the shopkeepers.

Cooked Meat	...	...	...	...	...	89	lbs.
Cod fillet	...	...	...	...	...	32	"
Raw meat	...	...	...	...	...	153	"
Tinned Meats	...	...	...	...	...	19	tins
Tinned fruits	...	...	...	...	...	176	"
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	...	28	"
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	30	"
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	3	"

Tinned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	122	tins
Milk & Cream	...	...	...	...	...	13	"
Pie Filling	...	...	...	...	...	1	"
Milk Pudding	...	...	...	...	...	8	"
Custard Powder	...	...	...	...	...	3	"
Pickles	...	...	...	...	...	3	jars
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	2	pkts
Beetroot	...	...	...	...	...	1	jar

The Cheshire County Council are the food authority for this area and I am indebted to Mr. W.K. Nattrass, Chief Inspector, of the Weights and Measures Department, for the following details of samples taken during the year.

Nature of sample	Number Obtained	Number of Non-Standard Samples
Apple Flakes - Instant	1	
Calamine Lotion	1	
Candy - Sugar Cough	1	
Chocolate Dairy Dessert	1	
Cordial - Peppermint	1	
Flan Mix	1	
Garlic Salt	1	
Health & Liver Salts	1	
Jelly Cake Decoration	1	
Milk - Fresh	20	
Pine Rub	1	
Sausage - Pork	1	1
Sodium Bicarbonate B.P.	1	
Strawberries in heavy syrup	1	
Sweets - Aniseed	1	
- Orange Chewits	1	
- Raspberry & Soda	1	
Tablets - Analgesic	1	
- Cold	1	
- Decongestant	1	
- Iron	1	
- Multi Vitamin & Mineral	1	
Tea	1	
Vegetables - Assorted beef in gravy	1	

Particulars of sample not up to standard :-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Pork Sausage	Preservative declared but absent	Manufacturer cautioned

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are no slaughterhouses operating within the area. All the butchers getting their meat from outside slaughterhouses.

MILK SUPPLY

There are no dairies in the area licensed by the County Council as pasteurisers.

There are within the area 15 distributors retailing Sterilised Milk; 7 retailing Pasteurised Milk; 10 retailing Ultra Heat Treated Milk and 1 retailing Untreated Milk.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

49 samples of milk were taken for examination by the Cheshire County Council, the details of results of the tests carried out were as follows:-

	<u>Methylene</u> <u>Blue Test</u>	<u>Phosphatase</u> <u>Test</u>			
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Total
T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk	3	-	-	-	3
T.T. Milk	4	1	-	-	5
Pasteurised Milk	30	2	6	-	38
Sterilised Milk	-	-	-	-	-
 Totals	37	3	6	-	46

	<u>Tuberculosis</u>		<u>Turbidity Test</u>		
	Nega-	Posi-	Pass	Fail	Total
	ti ve	tive			
T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk	-	-	-	-	-
T.T. Milk	-	-	-	-	-
Pasteurised Milk	-	-	1	-	1
Sterilised Milk	-	-	2	-	2
 Totals	-	-	3	-	3

MILK SUPPLIES - BRUCELLA ABORTUS

There is only one dairy herd in the district from which raw milk is sold to the public and during the year the County Council took samples relative to the above as shown in the table below:-

	<u>Total Submitted</u>	<u>Number Brucella Positive</u>
Bulk Samples	2	-
Dealers Samples (Herd Samples)	9	-
Individual Cow Samples	24	-
 Total	35	-

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

The following is a summary of the various food premises in the district:-

Grocers & General Provision Dealers	...	...	...	27
Butchers	...	...	...	8
Greengrocers and/or Fishmongers	...	...	...	5
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	1
Bakewholes	...	...	...	2
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	5
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	15
Confectioners	...	...	...	2

ICE-CREAM

There are 31 premises in the area now registered for the sale of ice-cream. In all cases the ice-cream is pre-packed and sold under satisfactory conditions.

REFUSE COLLECTION

This service is carried out by the staff of the Surveyor's Department. Owing to the turn over of man power, it is always difficult to give the service that is demanded by the public, but every effort is always made to this end.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

The whole of the collected rubbish is carted to the land in the Statham area and disposed of by controlled tipping. The tip is continually surveyed for rodent and fly infestation and treated if found necessary.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There are now only five houses where pail closets are still in use which is somewhat remarkable in an area so rural as Lymm.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The cleansing of the Public Conveniences is carried out by the Surveyor's Department. This work is hampered by the vandalism and mis-use of this service which takes place to the detriment of the Village.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Sewage Works Manager, Mr. B. Parsonage working under the direction of the Surveyor is responsible for the working of the modern sewage works.

CLEAN AIR

The private developers building in the district, whilst fitting open fires, have in the majority of instances provided central heating which is all moving towards the lesser emission of smoke. All post war Council Houses were fitted with approved appliances so that at any time the occupants can burn smokeless fuel should a Smokeless Control Area be declared.

IMPROVEMENTS TO DWELLINGS - HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959

There were 10 applications approved and 7 grants paid for Discretionary Grants during the year. Also, 16 applications approved and 13 grants paid in respect of Standard Grants under the above Act.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair during the year.

HOUSING REPAIRS

Eight Preliminary Notices were served following complaints received from householders and this resulted in improvements as follows:-

Burst Pipes	2
Defective woodwork	5
Defective W.C.	1
Roof	5
Gutters	1
Blocked grids	1
Windows	1

RODENT CONTROL

For this service I have the assistance of a part-time rodent operative, Mr. J. Goulden. During the year treatment has been carried out at the undermentioned properties:-

Rats	Private dwellings	51
	Business premises	21
Mice ,...	Private dwellings	8
	Business premises	7
Sewage Works ...	... ... ...	2
Refuse Tip ... ...	... ... ...	2

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following is a list of the premises registered under this Act by the end of the year.

Class of premises	No. of premises registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year
Offices	-	15
Retail Shops	1	47
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	-	2
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	17
Fuel storage depots	-	-

The number of people employed in the registered premises are as follows:-

Class of workplace	No. of persons employed	
	Male	Female
Offices	76	
Retail Shops	183	
Wholesale Shops, warehouses		11
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens		130
Fuel storage depots		-
 Total		400

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

During the year 11 inspections of factories and workplaces were made, as follows:-

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Occupiers		
			Written Notices	Prosecuted	Cited
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	7	2	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	31	9	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-Workers' premises)	2	-	-	-	-
 Totals	40	11	-	-	-

There were no defects discovered at the time of the visits.

CARAVANS

There are no sites for multiple occupation licensed within the Urban Area. There are however, three cases where permission has been given under the Town and Country Planning Act, for the siting of individual caravans for living purposes.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACT, 1928 and 1936

There are 16 premises licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit under the above legislation by the Council following my recommendations.

In this respect I would like to mention the ready co-operation of the Cheshire County Fire Brigade who on my request carry out inspections of all premises. A service which I find invaluable.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDING INSPECTOR'S VISITS

Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Houses let in lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Workplaces/Offices etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	105
Visits for Purposes of Building Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
Visits to Council Properties	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1246
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Houses inspected under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34

Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Infectious Disease Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Street Vendors & Hawkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous Food Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

